USSN 09/769,405 Axt unit 3679 Examiner J.R. Schiffman

extending along the tubular housing from the first end to the second end, the tubular housing having an exterior surface;

(نارس)

Øν

plural openings extending transversely through the housing from the interior surface to the exterior surface; and

a coating on the exterior surface of the tubular housing and covering the plural openings.

7. A rod string formed of plural rods connected by plural rod couplings, each rod coupling comprising:

a tubular housing having a first end adapted for threaded connection to a rod in a downhole rod string and a second end adapted for threaded connection to a rod in a downhole rod string, the tubular housing having an interior surface defining a bore extending along the tubular housing from the first end to the second end, the tubular housing having an exterior surface;

plural openings extending transversely through the housing from the interior surface to the exterior surface; and

a coating on the exterior surface of the tubular housing and covering the plural openings.

## REMARKS

## Claim for priority

Applicant proposes to defer filing the certified copy of the foreign application until allowance.

## Objection to the Specification

Applicant encloses revised pages 2 and 3 that incorporate the changes suggested by the examiner. Applicant thanks the examiner for his careful review of the disclosure.